Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2008-18

S-metolachlor

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Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA), under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act* (PCPA), has concluded that the addition of new uses to the labels of Dual Magnum Herbicide and Dual II Magnum Herbicide, containing the active ingredient s-metolachlor, for the control of labeled weeds on pumpkins and winter squash are acceptable. The specific uses that were approved in Canada are detailed on the Dual Magnum Herbicide and Dual II Magnum Herbicide labels (PCPA Registration Numbers 25728 and 25729, respectively).

The evaluation of these S-metolachlor applications indicated that the end-use products have merit and value and that the human health and environmental risks associated with the new uses are acceptable. Details regarding the registrations can be found in the corresponding Evaluation Reports that are available on the PMRA website, under Public Registry, Product Information, Current Applications.[1]

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not pose an unacceptable health risk. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Currently, MRLs are legally established under the Food and Drug Regulations (FDR) after consultation through the *Canada Gazette*. Amendments to the *Food and Drugs Act* (FDA) via Bill C-28, anticipated to come into force in 2008, will allow pesticide MRLs to be legally established under the PCPA without having to adopt MRLs by regulation under the FDA. This will result in a more efficient means of establishing, revising and revoking pesticide MRLs.

Consultation on the proposed MRLs for S-metolachlor is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps). This action is being taken in advance of Bill C-28 coming into force to allow the MRLs to be legally established as soon as possible after the FDA is amended.

The proposed MRLs for S-metolachlor in Canada in or on food, to be added to those MRLs currently established, are as follows.

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[1] The relevant report can be accessed by selecting the Programs and Special Actions/Minor Use/Historical tab and opening the Evaluation Report found under either Application Number 2006-6944 or 2006-6945.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for S-metolachlor

Common Name	Chemical Name of Substance	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodities
S-metolachlor	2-chloro-*N*-(2-ethyl-6-methylphenyl)-*N*-[(1*S*)-2-methoxy-1-methylethyl)acetamide and 2-chloro-*N*-(2-ethyl-6-methylphenyl)-*N*-[(1*R*)-2-methoxy-1-methylethyl)acetamide, including the metabolites 2-[(2-ethyl-6-methylphenyl)amino]-1-propanol and 4-(2-ethyl-6-methylphenyl)-2-hydroxy-5-methyl-3-morpholinone	0.1	Pumpkins, winter squash

A complete list of all MRLs established in Canada can be found in Table II, Division 15 of the FDR. Once the amendments to the FDA via Bill C-28 are in force, the list of legally established Canadian MRLs will be available on the PMRA's MRL webpage, which will be updated to include the MRLs listed in this document.

International Situation and Trade Implications

The proposed MRLs in Canada are the same as corresponding tolerances for pumpkin and winter squash established in the United States (listed in 40 CFR Part 180 by pesticide). Currently, there are no Codex MRLs[2] established for S-metolachlor on any commodities (Codex MRLs searchable by pesticide or commodity).

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for S-metolachlor up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRLs for S-metolachlor and posting an Established Maximum Residue Limit (EMRL) document on the PMRA's website once the amendments to the FDA are in force.

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2 Codex is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.